



NEWS RELEASE

Date: January 22 , 2014

Contact: Judy Petersen (402) 340-0106

District and Housing Announce formal Alliance to Benefit Central Nebraska Region

The Central Nebraska Economic Development District is proud to announce that Judy Petersen will serve as the new Executive Director of the Development District, effective January 17, 2014, and that a new alliance has been formed between the Central Nebraska Economic Development District (CNEDD) and the Central Nebraska Housing Developers (CNHD). Many thanks to the Federal Economic Development Administration (EDA) for the guidance and support they are providing to make this formal alliance a reality for the Central Nebraska region.

The leaders of both organizations, along with an experienced staff, are committed through this alliance to serve the Central Nebraska region through a more holistic approach to community and economic development, bringing about positive change for Central Nebraskans.

Coming soon, your community and county leaders will be asked to respond to a survey, giving them the opportunity to provide input about your county and community needs. We will ask these leaders to seek input from citizens and stakeholders like yourselves, to help identify the programs and services that will bring about the greatest positive changes for your communities.

“Your community and county needs may include: enhancing business opportunities, improving community amenities and programs, expanding housing, and retaining youth, just to name a few. Our first goal is to gather your input and develop a plan to address your needs through local and regional partnerships, and funding resources”, states Judy Petersen, CNEDD Executive Director.

Additional staff who will serve the District are: Linda Hazen, Grant/Finance Manager; Melissa Krysl, Marketing Specialist; and a Community Development Project Manager who will be hired shortly.

CNEDD members are: Counties of Blaine, Keya Paha, Sherman, Valley and Wheeler; and Cities/Villages of Atkinson, Bassett, Butte, Chambers, Cody, Emmett, Ericson, Greeley, Johnstown, Long Pine, Nunzel, O'Neill, Spalding, Spencer, Springview, and Stuart.

Member representatives serving as CNEDD Board Directors are: Nikki Johnston, Chair, O'Neill; John Madsen, Vice Chair, Stuart; Lou Ann Tooker, Secretary/Treasurer, Atkinson; Kristine Gale, Bassett; Trevor Lee, Ord; Rocky Richards, Cody; TJ Elllermeier, Rock County; and Larry Griffith, Sherman County. CNHD Board Directors are: Kristin Olson, Chair, Ainsworth; Rita Grigg, Vice Chair, Ord; Craig Brewster, Finance Officer, Butte; Ute Woitalewicz, St. Paul; John Madsen, Stuart; and Norene Kidder, Sargent.

“Central Nebraska is a tremendous place to live, work, and raise our families. The boards and staff of CNEDD and CNHD have dedicated ourselves to playing an integral role in expanding opportunities in Central Nebraska for the future of our communities, our children, and our rich way of life” says Nikki Johnston, CNEDD Chairperson.

To learn more about the Central Nebraska Economic Development District and how we can serve your community or county, please call Judy Petersen at 402-340-0106, or email judy.petersen@cnedd.org.